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FAR EAST

1. CHINA: Withdrawal of US support for Chiang urged--

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According to US Ambassador Stuart, Vice President Li Tsung-jen has urged that the US inform Chiang Kai-shek he would best serve the cause of his people by withdrawing from office now before the Nationalists have suffered complete military defeat. Vice President Li expressed his confidence that new non-Communist leadership, if provided unequivocal US support, could contain the Communists north of the Yangtze river. Stuart suggests that in order to strengthen the will to resist of friendly Chinese groups, he be authorized to inform Nationalist leaders the US does not favor Communist participation in any new Chinese government, and that the US issue a clear-cut statement of its policy concerning Communist participation in governments.

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Possible appeal to UN by Chiang--Ambassador Stuart reports that Chiang Kai-shek is giving serious consideration to the possibility of referring the Chinese civil war to the UN, as constituting a threat to world peace. Stuart believes that Chiang is motivated primarily by a desire to identify the Chinese Communists publicly as agents of the USSR and also by the hope that UN action might bring about a temporary cessation of hostilities. Stuart observes that from Chiang's viewpoint little would be lost at this stage by UN action which would bring the USSR openly onto the Chinese scene.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

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